


20 FEB 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: Associate Deputy Director for Administration  
SUBJECT : SRI Report on Perceptual Augmentation

1. I read SRI's report with great interest and found some of the narrative and observations to be intriguing. Unfortunately, they were unable to find any physiological measurable basis for their observations, a problem which has plagued research in this area for many years. At least to this reader I thought the report suffered unnecessarily from statistical overkill mixed with observational data which I found difficult to separate. It would have been helpful to know what the initial protocol was and to have further clarification of the control group (learner/control?) and the reasons for grouping some of the subjects for statistical reasons. Personally, I cannot endorse the statement that this report "establishes overwhelming scientific evidence for the existence of human perceptual capabilities which are as yet unexplained."

2. Putting aside any shortcomings in the report or my interpretation of it, I believe that the Agency should continue to monitor this area which I refer to as unusual sensory perception with particular emphasis on measurements of energy transfer which I believe must exist if this phenomenon is to be of any practical value to the Agency. The Office of Medical Services has indicated its interest in parapsychology to the Office of Research and Development in a formal requirement and I hope that senior officials of this Agency will continue to support modest efforts in this area of great potential even though the field enjoys little support by scientists in general.

  
Deputy Director of Medical Services

SG11